

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

F A C T S H E E T

**APPROVAL TO FURTHER IMPLEMENT THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT –
COMMUNITY SERVICES AND SUPPORTS PLAN
FOR WELLNESS / CLIENT-RUN CENTERS
AND
APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006-07
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)**

REQUEST

Authorize the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to implement Wellness Centers (WCs) in and/or associated with 14 directly operated outpatient clinics, in keeping with the Department's Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Community Services and Supports (CSS) Plan, effective upon Board approval. The Fiscal Year (FY) 2006-07 cost of the WCs is \$5,378,000, consisting of \$4,249,000 in MHSA funding and \$1,129,000 in anticipated Federal Financial Participation (FFP) Medi-Cal revenue. The FY 2007-08 estimated cost of the WCs is \$10,756,000, consisting of \$8,498,000 in MHSA funding and \$2,258,000 in anticipated FFP Medi-Cal revenue.

Authorize DMH to fill 133 ordinance positions/112.9 Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs) subject to allocation by the Chief Administrative Office (CAO).

Approve the Request for Appropriation Adjustment for FY 2006-07 in the amount of \$5,378,000 to increase Services and Supplies (S&S) in the amount of \$1,503,000, and Salaries and Employee Benefits (S&EB) in the amount of \$3,875,000 to provide spending authority for the implementation of 14 directly operated WC programs. The Appropriation Adjustment is fully funded with FY 2005-06 unexpended MHSA funding in the amount of \$4,249,000 and additional FFP Medi-Cal revenue in the amount of \$1,129,000.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION

Board approval of the recommended actions will enable DMH to implement 14 directly operated WC programs, located in strategic areas throughout the County (see attached), as part of the Department's over-all transformation from traditional clinical services to a Recovery Model of community-based, client and family driven, recovery-oriented services and supports. These Centers are designed to offer cost effective options to clients who no longer need the intensive services and who are ready to take increasing responsibility for their own wellness and recovery. As noted in the CSS Plan, the goal of the WC programs is to promote both recovery and sustained wellness through an emphasis on peer support, pro-active behavior, preventative strategies, and

self-responsibility. Ultimately, these Centers will reduce reliance on the mental health system by building a sustaining network of community-based support systems for clients no longer requiring more traditional care. The Centers, managed by professional staff with at least 50 percent mental health consumer staffing, will provide client-run services with adjunctive professional support, emphasizing wellness, healthy living, and community integration.

In addition to these directly operated WC programs, the Department has also issued a Request For Services (RFS) for contracted WCs in the annual amount of \$5.3 million, funded with FYs 2005-06 and 2006-07 unexpended MHSA funding and additional FFP Medi-Cal revenue. These programs will be either WCs with 50 percent mental health consumer staffing or Client-Run WCs with 100 percent mental health consumer staffing. DMH will return to your Board for authority to execute contract amendments with existing contractors and to obtain approval of any new contracts for additional WCs, based on the results of the RFS process currently underway.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

The focus of the State approved MHSA CSS Plan is on recovery-oriented services for people who are diagnosed with severe and persistent mental illness. Since submission and approval of the County's CSS plan which included limited funding for WCs, it has become increasingly evident that an expanded WC program is critical in order to advance the over-all goals of the MHSA, support clients as they advance in their recovery, and assist in mitigating the Department's structural deficit by providing a cost-effective alternative for clients who currently utilize traditional clinic-based maintenance services.

With the availability of unexpended MHSA funding from FY 2005-06, DMH plans to implement both directly operated and contracted WCs, strategically located throughout the County. Program design and staffing patterns will vary, based on the needs, resources, and cultural/linguistic composition of the communities served. However, basic components will include self-help groups, peer support services, social/recreational activities, medication evaluation and support services, integrated services and supports for co-occurring disorders, physical health screening/assistance with access to physical health care, and healthy living and health management activities. The WCs will also provide linkage to other services such as employment, education, housing, benefits maintenance, and short-term or crisis mental health services. These Centers may be co-located in a mental health outpatient center,

although the majority will be free-standing in the community or located in a multi-service or other type of community center.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

Implementation of these WC programs is anticipated to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of mental health operations. Through the Centers, the locus of services for many clients will be shifted from outpatient clinics to the community. In addition to fostering clients' community integration and achievement of quality of life goals, these Centers will contribute to a significant reduction in the number of clients served by the outpatient clinics.

Fact Sheet
 Authorization to Implement MHSA-Funded
 Directly Operated Wellness Centers
 Page 4

Number of Clients Served By Supervisorial District (SD)

Program	SD 1	SD 2	SD 3	SD 4	SD 5	Total
Antelope Valley MHC					200	200
West Valley MHC			250			250
San Fernando MHC			50		350	400
Arcadia MHC	75				475	550
Hollywood MHC			450			450
Northeast MHC	500					500
Edelman MHC			400			400
West Central MHC		375				375
Compton MHC		375				375
Rio Hondo MHC				400		400
Bell Gardens MHC	425					425
San Pedro MHC				400		400
South Bay MHC		300		75		375
Harbor - UCLA		275		75		350
Total	1,000	1,325	1,150	950	1,025	5,450